

outside the regular budget process. Moreover, the shortcomings of this budgetary approach is magnified when salary increases are to be funded entirely by State general funds and other sources of funds would not be charged their proportionate share.

I am also very concerned about the precedential effect of requiring the State to fund salary increases for local Council employees that possess only a tenuous and optional funding link to the State and no connection to the State personnel system. As noted earlier, while State employee salaries are governed by a defined salary schedule subject to State modification, employees of the Council receive such remuneration as set solely by the Council. In fact, a review of the existing salaries for employees of the Council and comparably positioned State employees reveals a weak correlation. Several comparative positions are similarly salaried; however other Council employees are compensated at a level significantly higher than their State counterparts.

Therefore, for the above reasons, I have decided to veto House Bill 248.

Sincerely,
Harry Hughes
Governor

House Bill No. 248

AN ACT concerning

Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland -
Employee Compensation

FOR the purpose of providing that when a general pay increase is given to State employees, an increase in pay at a rate equal to that given to State employees shall also be given to the permanent employees of the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland; providing for the funding of any such pay increase; and generally relating to the compensation of the employees of the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 20 - Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland
Section 2-402 and 2-403
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1981 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: